

MINUTES
Provost's Council
October 20, 2009

The Provost's Council met on October 20, 2009 at 8:30 a.m. in the President's Conference Room, Sheridan Hall 306.

Members present: Mark Bannister, Jeff Briggs, Chris Crawford, Paul Faber, Dennis King, John Ross, Mary Meier for Cindy Elliott, Fred Ruda for Debbie Mercer and Larry Gould

Members absent: Tim Crowley

Guests: Dorothy Fulton and Tisa Mason

A Call to Order

Action: The meeting was called to order by the Provost.

1. Strategic Items

a) Academic and Student Affairs

Action: Dr. Mason provided a document that lists some of the initiatives Student Affairs and Academic Affairs are working on right now. It is important to keep looking at the strategic plan and moving forward. Student Affairs is doing a lot with collecting data from the number of events they are sponsoring using this data to change the culture of the students' experience at the University. It is not just about collecting data but about change. If there are areas that can be improved, Student Affairs wants to make changes. One of the areas that the Provost would like to work on is governance and student governance. Dr. Mason will be asked back to the next meeting to continue discussing student affairs and academic affairs collaboration initiatives. George Jackson will be asked to also attend the meeting to discuss the Tilford Group. It was suggested as a collaborative initiative to encourage students to become active learners instead of passive learners. Internationalization is also an area we can work on with Student Affairs.

b) Tilford Conference

Action: Dr. Fulton will come back to the next meeting to discuss the Tilford Group.

2. Discussion Items

a) Online Teaching and Faculty

Action: APLU is the new institution and we do pretty good in comparison with some of the institutions that are listed in the report. The information in the

article can be used to establish, sustain and grow strategic online learning programs. The article is also a reminder that we have more competition than ever before.

b) General Education Survey

Action: The Ad Hoc Task Force met and went through the old survey and eliminated some of the questions that do not apply anymore. The plan is to send the survey out to all students electronically, not just to seniors. It will be administered by the Assistant Provost for Quality Management instead of the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. The question was raised about the inclusion of graduate students in the survey. Dr. Crawford will check with Dr. Crowley. It was suggested having a retreat that looks at the general education survey and the NSSE survey and determine if there is redundancy in the two surveys and which questions could be answered by each survey. Invitees to the retreat: Provost's Council, Joey Linn, Shana Meyer and Tisa Mason. The focus of the retreat will be at the institutional level. There will be a date in November and one in January selected for these retreats.

c) Faculty Senate/Academic Agenda Review

Action: Just a reminder of what the Faculty Senate is working on this year with Academic Affairs.

d) Program Review Schedule

Action: This year we are looking at all of the majors in the College of Business and Leadership. We do not have a schedule after that. Dr. Crawford needs a final schedule by December 1. He is required to submit the dates to the Kansas Board of Regents office by February.

e) Systems Portfolio

Action: The University's portfolio is due in Chicago by November 1. It was sent out electronically a week or so ago, but Dr. Crawford will take any feedback from the Provost's Council. There were a revised set of questions to answer this year. It was good to review the questions but it also was more time intensive due to the change in questions. We should receive feedback from HLC in February or March of next year. The response will be routed through CIE. Based on the report, the CIE will make suggestions for the strategic planning process. In November, based on the results, new performance agreement goals will be set.

f) Employer Perceptions of Online Programs

Action: One of the key issues to consider when marketing our programs is demonstrating what jobs are available with an online degree. The Provost is trying to get added-value out of our course development in the Virtual College.

g) Chair Survey Participation

Action: The academic deans indicated some of the chairs had received their own letter and survey. It was left to the individual chairs to respond to the survey. However, the Provost is hoping the chairs will complete the survey and will be willing to discuss the results with the Provost's Council to determine how we nationally compare to other chairs.

3. *Informational Items*

a) Dining Service Enhancements

Action: Informational item

b) Rosetta Stone and FHSU

Action: The University is making progress toward an agreement with Rosetta Stone by providing a mentor/coach model for their students.

c) Careers of the Future

Action: Interesting article on what the careers will be in the future.

d) FHSU Enrollment Surpasses 11,000

Action: Interestingly enough, no comment was made from the Regents on the record number of enrollment numbers at the University.

e) Agreement with Zhejiang Yuexiu University of Foreign Languages, FHSU and NCKTC

Action: The agreement is not going anywhere because the Ministry of Education will not include a third party.

f) What Do Kansans Really Think?

Action: It was an interesting report done by The Docking Institute of Public Affairs and presented to Kansas Board of Regents. Gary Brinker, Director of the Docking Institute indicated the availability of the data to faculty if wanted for other studies.

B. Announcements/ New Business

1) This is good message on online education and indicates employers are looking favorably on online degrees. The numbers continue to grow of people who are pursuing online degrees.

2) Distributed a copy of the NCCI call for nominations for leveraging awards. Dr. Gould is on the board if anyone has questions.

3) This is Dr. Mason's report with the target populations for each of these projects. These are the focal points for the collection of data.

C. Update on EMG Project – Casey Kelch

Action: No report

D. Adjournment

Action: The meeting adjourned at 12:31 p.m.

c: Dr. Edward Hammond
Dr. Tisa Mason
Mr. Larry Getty
Dr. Joey Linn
Dr. Jeff Burnett
Mr. Brad Stramel
Ms. Casey Kelch
Provost's Council Secretaries